WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of Jews by Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1945; and

WHEREAS, while Jews were the primary victims, gypsies, handicapped, Poles, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, political dissidents, and many others also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the history of the Holocaust reminds us to reflect on the responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments in the face of great injustice; and

WHEREAS, annual Days of Remembrance provide an opportunity to remember the terrible events of the Holocaust, while reaffirming our dedication to remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, bigotry, and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, with the theme, “For Justice and Humanity,” the 2004 Days of Remembrance pay particular tribute to the Jews of Hungary, deported sixty years ago in the final stages of World War II, and honors the few courageous individuals, organizations, and countries who attempted to rescue them.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 18 - 25, 2004, as

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to honor the memory of the victims and survivors of the Holocaust while striving to overcome intolerance and inhumanity.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA